Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—How many days' leave are available to each sorter?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I have no definite information here. I want notice.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was this matter referred to the Special Finance Committee?

President.—That appears to be a new question.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Was enquiry made regarding this, before giving this answer, whether it would be a profitable one or not?

President.—Whatever enquiry was necessary was made.

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The Comptroller of Accounts submitted proposals for introducing Savings Banks in treasuries. So no enquiry was made.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Part (xi). I want to know what they mean by the word "local"— whether it is Cochin State or India.

President.—We had not meant outside Cochin. You want to manufacture these in the State. Not outside Cochin.

Pupils of the depressed classes in the various Sirkar schools.

280. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table statistics showing the number of pupils of the depressed classes that are now studying in the different departments of schools conducted by Sirkar and private agencies?

Mr. C. Matthai.—The following are the figures at the end of 1101:—

	Upper Secondary.	Lower Secondary.	Primary.	Industrial Schools.
Pulayas ..	19	2,943		6
Others ..	6	1,065		..

281. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to state the exact number of Pulaya pupils now studying in the different departments of schools in the State?

Mr. C. Matthai.—Vide answer to question No. 280.

282. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a list of Sirkar as well as aided schools in which there are not a single pupil of the depressed classes?

Mr. C. Matthai.—Vide lists (A) and (B) appended. (*Vide Appendix II.*)

The several communities and Government appointments.

283. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to mention.—

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(a) the population of (1) caste Hindus, (2) non-caste Hindus, (3) Christians, (4) Muhammadans and (5) Jews in the State, according to the latest information available;

(b) the percentage of literacy among the above classes of people;

(c) the number of appointments, drawing a salary (1) of Rs. 50 and above, (2) of rupees below 50 held by those belonging to the above five groups in the first month of the current year;

(d) the total amount of salary and allowance drawn by the members of each of the above five groups (the Diwan also being included in the particular group to which he belongs) for the last quarter of the year 1101;

(e) the number of people newly entertained in Government service in the last five years on a salary of Rs. 25 and above, and of these, how many are (i) caste Hindus, (ii) non-caste Hindus, (iii) Christians, (iv) Muhammadans and (v) Jews?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—(a) and (b). A reference is invited to *the Cochin Census Report, 1921.*

(c), (d) & (e). The collection of the information as required will involve much time and labour which the Government are unable to spare.

The fine levied for safe-custody of documents.

284. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware of the fact that for every 15 days or a portion thereof a fine of annas eight is levied in the Registration Offices for safe-custody of documents, and that it is increased to rupee one from the 17th day till the 30th day, and so on?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—Yes. According to Registration Rule 23 and Departmental Orders 251 to 253, such fines are levied, subject to a maximum of Rs. 5. The Superintendent of Registration may, in his discretion, remit the fines, when it appears to him that the exaction thereof would be productive of injustice or hardship.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The fine is levied for the safe custody for 15 days. Then, how is it that, on the 18th day, they receive Re. 1; for 15 days they receive nothing? On the 16th day, they receive as. 8, and on the 18th day Re. 1.

President.—If it comes within the first 15 days, no fine is levied.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—This fine is only for a day, but the second 8 as. is for another 15 days. The first 8 as. is for one day and not for 15 days. Where is the justification for this?

President.—Of course, you are entitled to take back the document on a particular day. During the next 15 days from

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